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THE ALTERNATIVE TO THE "CONTAINMENT" POLICY

With the change in national Administration our foreign policy comes up for review. It was one of the principal issues in the campaign and while neither Republican platform nor General Eisenhower offered specific alternatives to Truman policy, the nation is expecting a major shift in the direction of our foreign policy, especially in relation to the Far East.

Truman Policy—

In retrospect the Truman policy appears erratic and often contradictory. Since 1947 it has revolved around our proclaimed determination to "contain" Soviet Communism, despite our oft reiterated assertion that the U. N. constitutes the cornerstone of our foreign policy. The "containment" policy involved arming ourselves and all possible allies, including Japan and Germany, so that the free world might proceed from "situations of strength" in dealing with Russia. The policy was modified, or perhaps complemented, by such moves as the Marshall Plan, the Point Four program, and the assistance phases of the Mutual Security program.

From the beginning the "containment" policy was opposed by many who believed that our efforts should be devoted not to attempts to hold Communism in check by military means, but by large scale efforts to relieve conditions of hunger and misery in the world which make Communism attractive to depressed peoples.

A Constructive Alternative

This is the one really constructive alternative to "containment," with its instant danger of war. It is implicit in the Marshall Plan and the Point Four Program and had these been supported by the President and the Congress with half the enthusiasm and the funds devoted to arming ourselves and our allies we might be infinitely further along the road to peace today than we are.

Stringfellow Barr, in his "Let's Join the Human Race," stated the case with insight and conviction. He restates it in a recent book, "Citizens of the World," to be reviewed in the March issue of this *News-Letter*. Arthur Goodfriend has recorded it photographically in his "*The Only War We Seek*."¹

Perhaps the most comprehensive statement of this alternative to "containment" is to be found in a recent book, "*Let There be Bread*,"² by John Brittain, with an introduction by Lord John Boyd Orr, former director general of FAD.

Brittain takes issue with the Malthusian theory that world population is limited by food supply. With better utilization of present and potential resources this planet could support a population of four billions instead of the present two billions. To support his thesis he roves the world and shows what is being done and what can be done to meet human needs for food and fibre. In the Tigris-Euphrates

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STRANGE CROP

Truth is a strange crop
That grows up,
Not unmixed with error,
Like wheat and tares
In a certain Galilean's
Parable of Kingdom coming—
A strange crop that grows up
In the give and take of men's conversation,
Sprouting out of the pages
Of scientific periodicals
And journals of opinion
And daily newspapers
And teen age comic books
And even the propaganda tracts
Of all the phony philosophies
That rise up to plague our world.

It's rooted in the radio
And the pulpit
And the library
And the university class room
And the T.V. screen
And the movies
And in the rabble-rouser's soapbox—

Wherever men get together
To talk,
To listen,
To argue,
To discuss,
To define,
To describe,
To convince,
To persuade—
In the free market of ideas
Where thesis and antithesis
Jostle each other as they
Compete for man's attention
And man's loyalty—
There—there
Truth grows up—
But not unmixed with error.

* * *

Truth is a strange crop
That grows up,
Not unmixed with error,
Like wheat and tares
In a certain Galilean's
Parable of Kingdom coming—
And often men who fancy themselves
More like God than God himself
Arrogate the reaper's task
Of weeding out the crop
While yet the field is green.

They burn books.
They intimidate speakers.
They arrange for bans on movies,
And restrictions of library circulations.
They substitute thought control
For education
And the deliberate slanting of news
For straight reporting

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A MILLION TRAVEL THE ROADS

A million workers every year follow the sun and the harvest. They travel in order that the secure, well-fed American citizen may be fed—may reach into his deep freeze or to the shelf in the grocery store and select packages of frozen food or cans of vegetables and fruit for his table. Furthermore, the families of these workers move with them, which raises the number of wandering agricultural laborers to nearly two million.

Native-born migrants pay the highest price to harvest our crops, for they are the lowest income group in the nation. Their life is one of constant insecurity. They are not eligible for social security or unemployment compensation. Though they are American citizens they cannot vote. They have no roots in any community.

The Division of Home Missions of the National Council of Churches provides programs which are designed to help meet some of the migrants' immediate needs. One of these services is the summer program which is set up in areas where the migratory population rapidly increases as the crops reach the peak of harvest. To carry out such a program the skill and consecration of college age young people are needed.

The department of social welfare is now recruiting interested young people for the 1953 summer program. Young men and young women who desire some type of work camp experience should write the department for further information and application blanks.

R. E. M.

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CONGRATULATIONS, MR. PRESIDENT

Congratulations, Mr. President. As we watched your inauguration yesterday on the television and heard your address over the radio we were impressed by your obvious sincerity and humility. It was a reverent touch when you preceded your address by your personal prayer. It exhibited a spirit which the American people, for all their materialisms appreciated.

By the very nature of the occasion your inaugural address had to be general in nature. But you did indicate the directions in which you intend to move. You held out an opening for a settlement of the East-West "cold war," an opening that Stalin can take if he sincerely wants peace. You declared your willingness to engage "with any and all others in joint efforts to remove the causes of mutual fear and distrust" in order to make possible "drastic reduction of armaments." Your sole reservation was that each nation must come to any such conference in good faith. That is an obvious essential. You no doubt recognize that the present arms race cannot go on without ending either in war or the bankruptcy of the participating nations. For some of our allies that time is rapidly approaching. You have evidently discovered that NATO is not strong enough for you to follow General MacArthur's theory that we can concentrate on an all-out war in Korea without endangering our allies in Europe.

You were unequivocal in your declaration of support for the U. N. That is what many of us hoped you would say. Now, it must be underwritten by making the regional pacts you said you would continue to support genuinely subject to the United Nations. We hope you will give attention to the inadequate support we give to the central budget and to some of the specialized agencies.

We are impressed by the fact that seven of your nine "fixed principles" have a military coloration. Perhaps that is to be expected from a man who has spent his entire adult life in the military service and is accustomed to speaking in military terms. But you

WASHINGTON ROUNDUP

→*Inauguration*: Dwight D. Eisenhower is the President of the United States. Any estimate of possible accomplishments by his administration is necessarily limited until the character of the new Government definitely emerges. But there are some indications of the attitude of President Eisenhower and his leaders on Capitol Hill that foreshadow the shape of things to come.

→*Loyalty*: The new Administration will be called upon immediately to reveal its attitude towards the far reaching hunt for communists in Government, education, tax-exempt foundations, and other areas of American life. The approach of the new President to this knotty problem will have an important bearing on the character of his administration. It will have a significant influence particularly on foreign policy, long nagged and harassed by Congressional investigations. If Eisenhower takes the offensive, which Truman never was able to do, he may be able to free State Department officials for creative planning. Already there are rumors and innuendos about the background of John Foster Dulles, the new Secretary of State. Many GOP leaders consider him to be a Republican Dean Acheson, whose policies he was often called upon to administer. Washington observers already are wondering whether the new Secretary will be able to devote his unusual talents to the development of a "Just and Durable Peace"; or whether he, like his predecessor, will have to spend the bulk of his time in appeasement of investigating Senators whose appetites for diplomats is difficult to satisfy.

→*More Investigation*: The two "ace" investigators in the Republican controlled Senate will be Joseph McCarthy (R. Wis.) and William Jenner (R. Ind.) Senator McCarthy will be chairman of the Government Operations Committee. This will give him free reign to call federal administrators to the Capitol for almost any purpose. The scope of such a committee is usually limited only by the imagination and conscience of its chairman. While the customary role of this committee is to seek improvements in the administration of the federal agencies, it also can and probably will spend considerable time on the background and loyalty of public servants. Senator Jenner heads the Internal Security Sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, of which Senator Langer (R. N.D.) is chairman. Senator Jenner's job is the one held down by Senator McCarran in the 82nd Congress. It is difficult for any President to control the forays of Congressmen on government agencies. The best President Eisenhower can hope for is that the investigators will content themselves with opening up new sores in

the Truman Administration, while he sets his course on the foreign and domestic policy. Senators of the Administration party customarily are expected to give the new President a decent holiday from probes. Whether these courtesies will be observed is the question.

→*Foreign Affairs*: In the next few months the Republicans must decide whether to continue foreign aid programs at the present level. Since federal budgets are 18 months in preparation, the GOP must work with President Truman's budget for the fiscal year 1954, which begins July 1, 1953. The Truman budget allowed \$7.9 billion for all economic, military, and technical assistance programs. Republican Congressional reaction to this figure was cold. Chairman John Taber of the powerful House Appropriations Committee said the whole program should be junked. He claims there is sufficient foreign aid money in the "pipeline" to carry out existing commitments and wind up all but vital military programs. There is, of course, \$10,000,000 in foreign aid money already appropriated for the Mutual Security Agency. But as MSA points out most of this money is obligated and delivery of materials, men, and programs, is under way. President Eisenhower already has sent Mr. Dulles and the new MSA Administrator Harold Stassen to Europe to check up on foreign spending and presumably to gather material with which to defend whatever foreign aid program the new Administration sends to Congress.

→*Legislative Mill*: As the new Congress began its work, the outlook for some other key issues was as follows:

Race Relations: The Senate liberals failed in their attempt to change the rules regarding filibusters. The bid on the first day of the new session to adopt new rules curbing filibusters by a majority vote was stopped cold. As a result the chances for passage of legislation on fair employment practices and similar measures appears to be doomed. There are indications that a Presidential Commission may be set up to study the problem.

Conscription: There seems to be little chance of passage for any legislation establishing a permanent system of universal military training. Candidate Eisenhower declared against UMT while the draft law was in effect. This law will be on the books until 1955. At the same time, Rep. Dewey Short became chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, which must consider any such legislation. He has been the most powerful opponent of UMT in the past and again made his position clear when the National Security Training Commission announced its new UMT program would soon be submitted to Congress.

ON SOCIAL FRONTIERS

Liquor and Business. Officials of Colorado Liquor Department step in at the beginning of the holidays to forbid certain Denver business concerns to serve alcoholic beverages to customers. The ruling arose out of the pronounced intention of a women's apparel establishment to provide wine during a "Shy Shopper's Hour" and a plan of a theatre to open a champagne bar to serve patrons during the permission of a televised showing of "Carmen" by the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York. The order was made in conformity with a law that prohibits the serving of liquor in public places other than licensed premises.

* * *

MT Claque Begins. As is the case at the opening of every session of Congress the Universal Military Training claque has begun its chant. General Shepley warns that we are about to reach the bottom of the manpower barrel and that married men, fathers of college students will soon have to be drafted. A Congressman warns that the service period of draftees may be upped to 24 months and peacetime drafts are made to tighten up on agricultural deferments. This is an old and familiar routine. It will soon be followed by the usual campaign to speed up Universal Military Training.

* * *

Alcohol Hits High and Low. The conviction of Mrs. Dorothy Krueger Smith, daughter of retired General Walter Krueger, by a court-martial in Tokyo for the premeditated murder of her husband, Colonel Aubrey D. Smith, in October, underscores the fact that alcohol doesn't care whether its victims are Judy O'Grady or the Colonel's lady. Press dispatches indicate that at the defense presented evidence that Mrs. Smith was an alcoholic and "completely out of control" and was unable to desist from murder, though knowing it to be wrong. Conviction carries a penalty of life imprisonment which will be appealed.

* * *

Religious Affiliation of Congressmen. Among the 435 members of the House of Representatives of the 83rd Congress will be 73 Methodists, 59 Roman Catholics, 43 Baptists, 42 Presbyterians, 32 Episcopalians, 18 Congregational Christians, 15 Lutherans, 11 Disciples of Christ, 7 Jews; belong to various other religious bodies, and 10 who list themselves simply as "Protestant." One hundred and two fail to give their religious affiliation. In the Senate there are 19 Methodists, 12 Presbyterians, 12 Episcopalians, 12 Baptists, 10 Roman Catholics, 7 Congregational Christians, 4 Disciples, and 9 others

TIME TO SHARE

Week of Compassion

February 15-22, 1953

They were "scattered as sheep having no shepherd" aptly describes the refugee situation in the world today. Millions of them—homeless, frightened, frustrated, hopeless people. They are disillusioned. They are sick. They are hungry. They are cold. They are afraid. They are far from native land.

There are countless children and youth made orphans by war. They roam the roads and countrysides of the world. They lack food and clothing. They lack homes and loving care. They lack purpose and hope in life.

Christians of this day, as did Jesus in his day, can meet the needs of people and give evidence that the Church still knows the meaning of compassion. This can be done by sharing with these peoples through the Week of Compassion. Now is the time to share!

R. E. M.

EXPERIENCE WORLD FRIENDSHIP IN YOUR OWN HOME

"I'm taking six subjects and I am real busy. As I have only two study periods in the whole week, I've to do much home work, especially for the first time till I catch up a little with the language . . . Mr. and Mrs. Moore are very friendly people. We are visiting the First Christian Church and there I found a good welcome, too. I also became acquainted with a lot of high school students. There is another foreign student in Decatur, too. I met him before school started. He is a Norwegian boy of sixteen. He does not like very much the 'running around' in the school. The Decatur high school is a real big one. It has five floors and 1850 students are visiting it. Yesterday night there was the first football game for this year. The 'Decatur Reds' against the Moosehart team. Some other students took me along and it was the first American football game I ever saw."—Thus Heinz Artus, European Exchange high school student, writes of his first impressions in the United States.

Plans are now being made to sponsor several of these students for the 1953-1954 school year. Further details about the program may be secured from the department of social welfare.

R. E. M.

who describe themselves as "Protestants" or as belonging to various minor religious bodies. There is no record of the religious affiliation of 5 others.

J. A. C.

"WAR NOT INEVITABLE," SAYS NATIONAL COUNCIL

A third world war is not inevitable, declares the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. in a statement released by its General Board on January 19, and "to believe that nations are being driven into war by some blind destiny beyond their power to resist is fatalism of the most pagan sort." Whether so intended or not, the release of the statement on the day preceding the inauguration of President Eisenhower made a profound impression upon the religious forces of the nation as well as upon secular groups. The following is the text of the statement:

"The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A., taking into account the grave crisis with which the world of nations is confronted calls upon the people of our churches to be steadfast in prayer that under the guidance of Almighty God, the conditions of peace with justice may be established and a general war may be averted.

"We reject the view that a third world war is inevitable. To believe that nations are being driven into war by some blind destiny beyond their power to resist, is fatalism of the most pagan sort. Let those who have taken upon themselves the name of Christ resist such counsels of despair.

"The National Council has approved a study looking toward the preparation of a message on the Churches and the Nation in the Crisis. Pending the preparation of this message we express the following views:

1. We believe the United States should seek to strengthen the ties by which the freedom-loving peoples of all nations are bound together. All nations are members of one human family under God. This truth will be ignored only at the gravest peril to ourselves and others.

2. We believe in the United Nations.

3. We believe the United States should negotiate without appeasement with other governments both within and without the United Nations in an effort to reach agreements that will secure peace with justice.

4. We believe the United States, preferably through the United Nations, should implement with all possible dispatch a program of assistance to the underprivileged peoples of the world.

"A just and durable peace cannot be fully achieved except as people everywhere become responsible to those moral and spiritual imperatives which are the essence of our faith in Christ. To carry forward with increasing zeal the world mission of the church is to hasten the day when our own and succeeding generations may be delivered from the scourge of war.

"It is our fervent prayer that the President of the United States, his ad-

"OLIVE PELL BIBLE"

... The latest in the line of new Bibles is the "Olive Pell Bible," published on December 29, 1952 by Exposition Press Inc. New York, \$3.00. Compiled by Mrs. Olive Pell, a long time member of St. George's Church, Episcopal, in lower New York, the book is not a revision but a condensation for personal devotion.

... It is based on the King James text. A great deal of material which the compiler regards as extraneous has been deleted. However, the literature of certain critical periods is given fuller treatment. This is especially true of I and II Samuel, the books of Kings, Isaiah and the entire New Testament.

... The Sermon on the Mount is given in almost its entirety. It is a bit of a jolt, however, to discover only two verses of Amos, four of Habbakuk, five of Zephaniah, and three of Haggai.

... For Christians who already know their Bible, and want a book of devotional literature this one might do. But one would never get the sweep of God's dealings with man from it.

J. A. C.

CONGRATULATIONS—Cont. P. 2

are now a civilian, Mr. President, and most of your fellow-citizens speak the language of civilian life, not the language of the Pentagon.

We find it difficult to understand how your advisers ever let you nominate Charles E. Wilson for Secretary of Defense without requiring him to dispose of his General Motors holdings. As Senator Taft has pointed out, there is a law against that. If the Senate is persuaded to ignore the facts in the case and accept a face-saving way out, it will rise up to plague you later on.

Like most Americans, Mr. President, we are for you. Your "honeymoon" will probably be short, but today the sun is shining on your head. May it continue to shine!

J. A. C.

WAR NOT—Cont. P. 3

visers, the members of Congress, and our people generally may have recourse to that spiritual power which is of God. It is in the spiritual power derived from a relationship to the righteousness and love of God that our nation must and will find the strength and guidance to fulfill its international responsibilities."

The National Council's General Board has approved a proposal of the Department of International Justice and Goodwill to call an interdenominational conference late in October 1953 to deal with the problems of the Church and the Nation in Crisis. It is expected that into the deliberations of this conference will be brought churchmen concerned with foreign missions, home

ALTERNATIVE—Cont. P. 1.

valley that once supported a population of 30 millions, remains of old irrigation systems have been discovered and plans are under way to reopen them. The proposed Jordan Valley Authority will make the Palestinian desert blossom once more as the rose. A vast lake underlies the Sahara desert and needs only to be tapped to bring life to that region. The irrigation systems that once made Carthage and North Africa rich and populous are being reopened. Russia is changing the course of two rivers to irrigate huge areas of land. In India 10 million acres of land, long held captive by the coarse kans grass, are being brought into cultivation by the discovery that roots cut 14-20 inches below the surface will wither and die. In Siberia and Canada agriculture is being pushed up inside the Arctic Circle. In South America the huge Amazon area, comprising part of eight nations, is being slowly brought under the control of man. Of 200,000 known species of plants, human beings are cultivating less than 400 for food. Geneticists are working miracles with plants and animals no less spectacular than the miracles of the physical scientists in the field of nuclear and thermal physics. Vast irrigation projects, self-deleafing sugar cane, five-headed wheat stalks and fertilizing the ocean spawning grounds to increase the world's fish supply are only a few of the illustrations of how plenty for all can be had if we have the will and the imagination to develop what lies within our grasp.

Brotherhood is Inescapable!

But it cannot be done unilaterally. The task calls for international co-operation on a scale never before dreamed of. It will take an International Development Authority to do it, together with the cooperation of all peoples according to their abilities. In other words, we can save ourselves only by practicing brotherhood on a world scale.

Obviously this solution does not meet the problems of military aggression. Those who support it maintain that the chief danger of external aggression arises when internal conditions invite such action and that the best guarantee of stability and peace is a well fed, free and independent people.

J. A. C.

¹ Reviewed in the January issue of *Social Action News-Letter*.

² *Let There Be Bread*, by John Brittain. \$3.00 Sales Literature, 222 South Downey Avenue, Indianapolis 7, Indiana.

missions and Christian education, and in connection with the latter, especially those who are concerned with the formulation and preparation of curricular materials for the use of church schools and other educational groups in local churches.

J. A. C.

STRANGE CROP—Cont. P. 1

And they do it all
With the best of intentions—
Full of religious zeal,
Patriotism,
And fanatical self righteousness.

They do it in Russia,
In Argentina
And in America.

They root out the tares
And the wheat together.
They attack error with violence
And truth dies with it.

* * *

Truth is a strange crop
That grows up,
Not unmixed with error,
Like wheat and tares
In a certain Galilean's
Parable of Kingdom coming—
And men of faith insist
You must allow the one to save the
other.

For wheat and tares
May, as they grow,
Look very much alike
And one must be careful
How he deals with them
For, as one Gamaliel said,
"You might even be found
Opposing God."

There is also the possibility
That in this strange world
God may, with creative hand,
Convert the hopeless error of today
Into the helpful truth of tomorrow.

So men of faith preach
Their own doctrines
With all their souls,
Even as they insist,
That heretics, dissenters,
Bigots, clowns and fools
Must likewise have
Their chance of being heard.

There was one once
Of whom men said,
"He hath a devil."
By Beelzebub, possessed is he—
Blasphemer,
Misleader of the multitudes—
—They hanged him on a tree.

Truth is a strange crop
That grows up,
Not unmixed with error.